

**DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION**

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**Agenda Item #15**  
**January 28, 1999**

**To:** Delta Protection Commission

**From:** Margit Aramburu, Executive Director

**Subject:** Proposed Changes to SB 172; Abandoned Vessels Removal Program

Several representatives of boating and law enforcement groups have worked with Senator Rainey's office regarding possible amendments to the language which created the abandoned vessel removal grant program.

A legal opinion has been requested regarding the possible interpretation that Harbors and Navigation Code Sections 526(a) and 526(g) preclude lien sales by local agencies. If it is determined that they do, a bill will be introduced to clarify the lien sale process

If a bill is introduced, the following changes will be included:

1. Language to clarify the public notice requirement associated with selling an abandoned vessel is to publish the notice once a week, for two consecutive weeks (Section 526(a)(5)).
2. Language to clarify that prior to selling an abandoned vessel, the registration information for the last five years will be requested from the Department of Motor Vehicles, rather than the current registration (Section 526(a)(5)).